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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: G. Knowlton *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/010,822

Filed: January 22, 1998

For: AUTOIGNITION COMPOSITION



Group Art Unit: 360

Examiner: E. Miller

Attorney Docket No.: 3756-399

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 15, 1999, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and comments into the file of the above identified application.

In the Claims:

Amend as follows:

1. (amended) A low temperature autoignition composition for safely initiating combustion of a main pyrotechnic charge in a gas generator or pyrotechnic device exposed to flame or a high temperature environment, consisting essentially of:

an intimate mixture of an oxidizer composition and a powdered metal fuel,
wherein the oxidizer composition comprises silver nitrate or a comelt or mixture comprising silver nitrate and at least one additional component selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal nitrate, an alkaline earth metal nitrate, a complex salt nitrate, a dried, hydrated nitrate, an alkali metal chlorate, an alkali metal perchlorate, an alkaline earth metal chlorate, an alkaline earth metal perchlorate, ammonium perchlorate, sodium nitrite, potassium nitrite, silver nitrite, a complex salt nitrite, a solid organic nitrate, a solid organic nitrite, [or] and a solid organic amine, and